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Director of Central Intelligence

Miers
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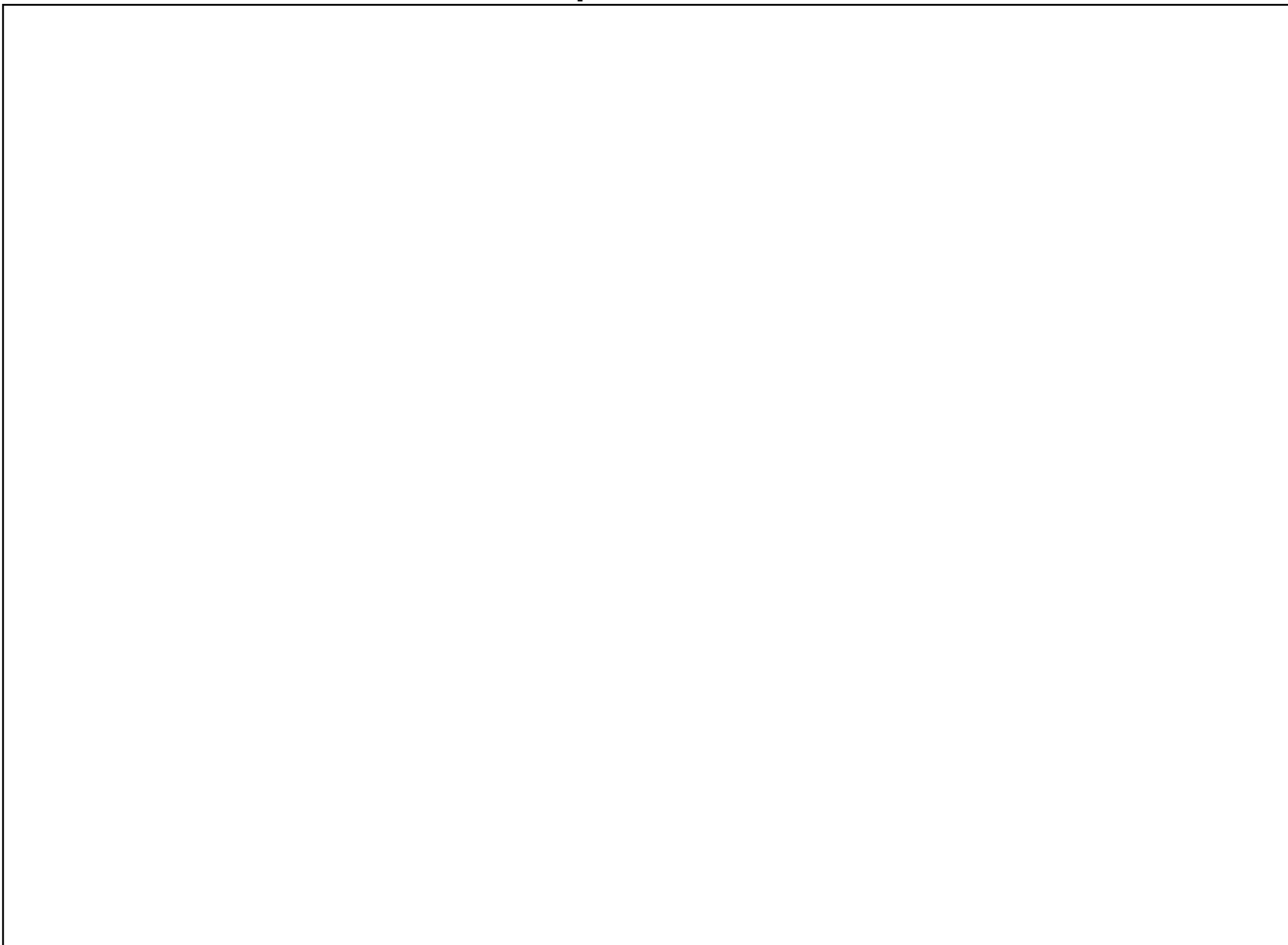
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RWANDA: RISKS to an Expanded UN Force

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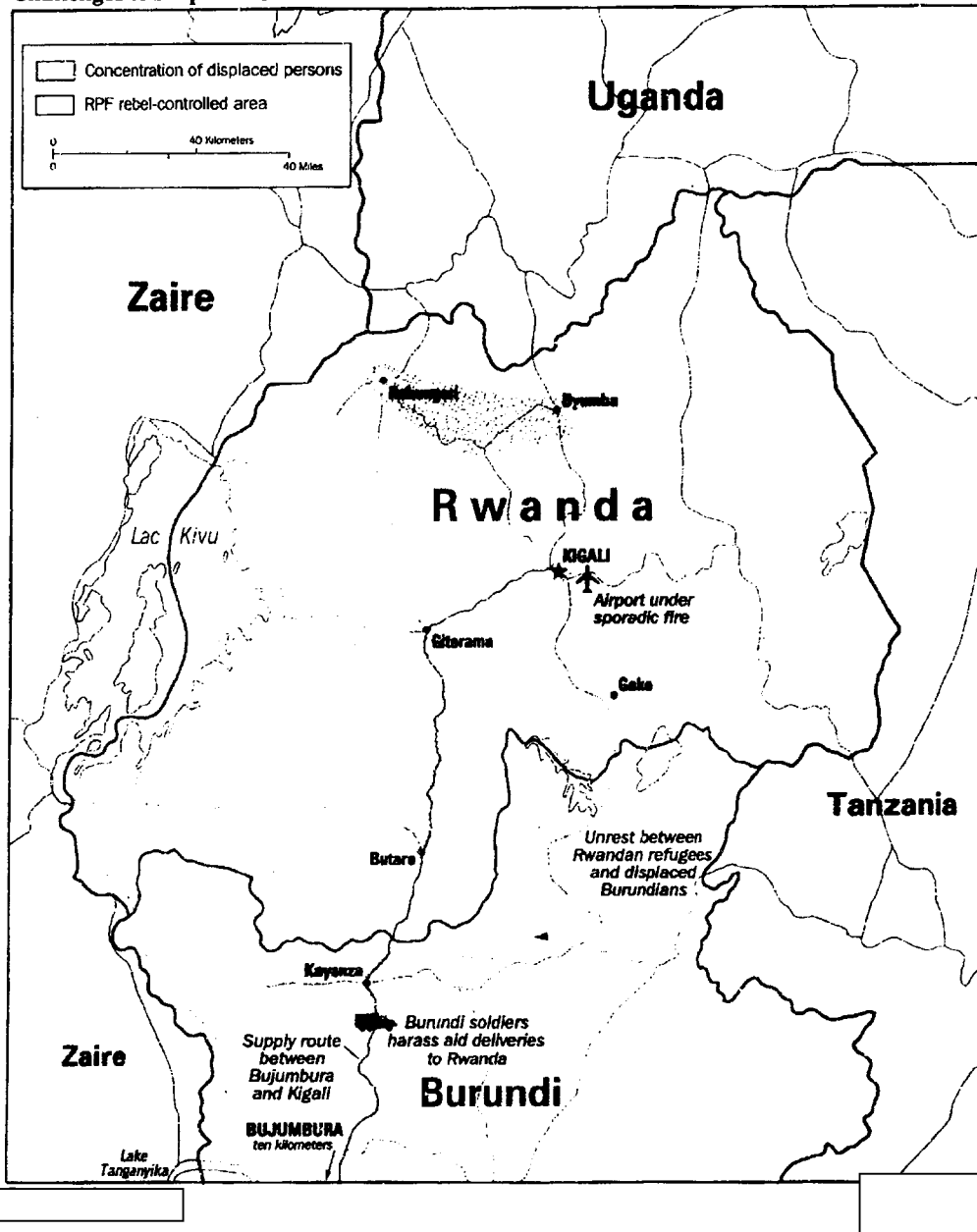


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Challenges to Proposed UN Forces

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RWANDA:

Risks to an Expanded UN Force

The two factions are trying to set very different conditions for acceptance of the 5,500-man contingent that the UN Security Council yesterday informally agreed to add to the 400 UN peacekeepers already in Kigali.

- Rwanda's UN Ambassador is pushing for a large force that would enforce a cease-fire and back up a political settlement. *The interim government probably wants a UN force that would freeze battlelines and block advances by the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front.*

- Leaders of the RPF want a new UN force to have no more than 2,500 soldiers,

Government troops are likely to pose a serious threat to an enhanced UN military presence. Despite RPF advances, the Army retains a core of some 10,000 combat-effective troops, who are equipped with armored vehicles, air defense missiles, antiaircraft guns, and other heavy weapons.

- Earlier this year the security forces trained and armed some 10,000 radical Hutu militiamen; UN officials say the regime has begun to recruit 50,000 new troops. The irregulars have harassed foreign aid workers *and could evolve into a guerrilla force capable of taking on UN troops.*

RPF forces are less likely to confront an enhanced UN deployment.

Kigali's airport, the only facility capable of receiving large transport aircraft, is on the frontline between government and rebel forces; *either side probably could shut down any airfield in Rwanda, and supply convoys would be easy to ambush in the hilly terrain.* There are more than 50,000 uncleared mines in the north.

A force based in Burundi to protect vulnerable civilians in southern Rwanda also would face serious political and logistic problems.

utsi-dominated military would be chary of any foreign military presence, probably out of fear of unrest among the Hutu majority.

- Food aid shipments reportedly already are straining Bujumbura's port on Lake Tanganyika and, to a lesser extent, its airport.

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